

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: S. HIRANO, et al.
Serial No: 10/589,988
Filed: AUGUST 18, 2006
Title: METHOD OF FRICTION STIR-SPOT WELDING AND
WELDING APPARATUS
Group AU: 1793
Examiner: Devang R. Patel
Confirm. No: 2470

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 AND 1.98**

Mail Stop: AMEND – NO FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

October 31, 2008

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find a copy of a translation of an Official Action by the Chinese Patent Office, mailed May 9, 2008, in connection with a corresponding Chinese patent application. Also enclosed is a copy of the document cited in this Official Action, and an English language abstract thereof. Further enclosed is a Form PTO/SB/08A, listing the enclosed documents.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application. Accordingly, requirements of 37 CFR 1.97(b) are satisfied.

To the extent that the enclosed documents are not in English, it is respectfully submitted that requirements of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) are satisfied by the enclosed translation of the Official Action mailed May 9, 2008, and/or by the English language abstract filed with the submitted document.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with each of the documents listed on the enclosed Form. Accordingly, consideration of the listed documents, upon examination of the above-identified application on the merits, is respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage of fees due in connection with the filing of this paper to the Deposit Account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (case No. 520.46379X00), or credit any excess fees paid to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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